

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: :  
: Takeshi KUBO, et al. :  
: Group Art Unit: unassigned  
Serial No.: Continuation of 09/084,323 :  
: Examiner: unassigned  
Filed: April 16, 2001 :  
For: **AUTHENTICATION APPARATUS, USER AUTHENTICATION METHOD,  
USER AUTHENTICATION CARD AND STORAGE**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is responsive to the continuation application filed on April 16, 2001. Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

**REMARKS**

The above-referenced application filed on April 16, 2001 is a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(b) of and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to the parent application having U.S. Serial No. 09/084,323 filed on May 26, 1998, now pending. In addition, foreign priority benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119 is claimed to Japanese Application No. 9-264839, filed September 10, 1997 and Japanese Application No. 10-94592, filed April